

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: S3/10/15  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 681

By: Senator A. Clark  
By: Representative Cozart

### For An Act To Be Entitled

*AN ACT TO MODIFY THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON TO  
SERVE AS THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION; TO DECLARE AN  
EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*

### Subtitle

*TO MODIFY THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR A PERSON  
TO SERVE AS THE COMMISSIONER OF  
EDUCATION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-11-102(c)(1), concerning the Commissioner of Education, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) The person selected as the commissioner ~~must~~ shall:

(A) Be a person of good moral character, recognized as a leader in the field of education, and qualified technically and by experience to direct the work of the department; and

(B) Unless a deputy commissioner meets the requirements of this subdivision (c)(1)(B), a person selected as commissioner shall:

(i) Hold a master's degree from an accredited institution;

~~(C)~~(ii) Have had ten (10) years' experience as a teacher, five (5) of which must be of an administrative or supervisory nature; and

~~(D)~~(iii) Hold a valid state teacher's license.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the



General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the Commissioner of Education is critical to the success of public education; that the qualities of a Commissioner of Education have changed along with the education system in general; and that this act is immediately necessary to ensure that the requirements for the Commissioner of Education are appropriate. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

/s/A. Clark